Message Text

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45

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SPC-03 SAM-01 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

COME-00 L-03 H-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 TAR-02 INT-08 MC-02 DRC-01 /143 W 066014

R 050937Z FEB 74 FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0344

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E.O. 11652: NA TAGS : ETRD, TH

SUBJECT: U.S. FERROUS SCRAP EXPORTS

REX: A. STATE 248080; B. BANGKOK 19568; C. BANGKOK 1423

- 1. FEBRUARY 4 BANGKOK POST CARRIED INTERVIEW WITH MR. CHAMNI VISAVAPOLBOON, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF G.S. STEEL CO. LTD., IN WHICH HE COMPLAINED THAT U.S. EXPORT QUOTAS ON SCRAP IRON WERE HURTING HIS FIRM, NOTING THAT HE HAD EARLIER ASKED U.S. EMBASSY TO HELP SECURE INCREASED QUOTAS BUT THAT, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH CONCERNED AUTHORITIES, EMBASSY HAD TURNED HIM DOWN. THIS WAS FIRST PUBLIC AIRING OF SCRAP EXPORT QUOTAS IN SEVERAL MONTHS.
- 2. IN SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT (REF C) MINISTRY OF COMMERCE DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY SNOH UNAKUL HAS ASKED EMBASSY OFFICERS TO CONFIRM THAT HISTORIC BASE ON WHICH THAI QUOTA CALCULATED INCLUDES U.S. EXPORTS TO THAILAND, BUT VIA JAPAN. (NOTE: G.S. STEEL CO. IS A THAI-JAPANESE JOINT VENTURE, WITH MITSUBISHI HOLDING MINORITY SHARES.) EMBASSY OFFICERS SAID THIS HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH G.S. STEEL OFFICIALS SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, WHEN EMBASSY HAD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REFERRED THEM TO PARA 4 OF AUGUST 24, 1973 USDOC PRESS

RELEASE G73-101, WHICH CONTAINS SENTENCE, "FERROUS SCRAP ORDERED BY JAPANESE TRADING COMPANIES FOR EXPORT TO A COUNTRY OTHER THAN JAPAN WILL BE LICENSED ONLY WHERE SATISFACTORY DOCUMENTATION HAS BEEN SUPPLIED THAT THE ORDER WAS ORIGINALLY INTENDED FOR THE OTHER COUNTRY." G.S. STEEL WAS ASKED IF IT COULD FURNISH SUCH DOCUMENTATION, WHEREUPON IT SUBMITTED COPIES OF INVOICES FROM MITSUBISHI'S U.S. SUBSIDIARY AS WELL AS CONTRACT BETWEEN LEVIN METALS CORP., SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA, AND MITSUBISHI INTERNATIONAL, IN WHICH THAILAND WAS CLEARLY INDICATED AS FINAL DESTINATION. THESE DOCUMENTS WERE SUBMITTED TO USDOC BY AIR POUCH ON DECEMBER 18 AS PER REF B.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATECONFIRMATION THAT BASE ON WHICH THAI QUOTA CALCULATED INCLUDES DOCUMENTED SHIPMENTS FORM U.S. VIA JAPAN.
KINTNER

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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